

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR

ESTABLISHED IN 1840

FREEDOM OR SLAVERY

By MAX ZIMMER

A ROYAL MOTHER

By Doris Owens

ABOUT YOUR MOTHER

By RICHARD S. BENNETT

FREEDOM OR SLAVERY

A Little Story About a Big Subject

By MAX ZIMMER

“WHAT can anyone make out of this? These are such contradictory statements: What is freedom and what is slavery? One reads and studies; one is instructed and taught, and finally one remains as smart or as stupid as before. Is it not possible to find a common, comprehensible explanation of such an important question? It appears to me that the learned ones are not in agreement about this question or they would not do so much talking about it. Finally and lastly: What is freedom?”

About the Story

THIS story, written in dialogue form, originally appeared in *Der Stern*, semi-monthly organ of the Swiss-German mission, of which Brother Zimmer is the editor. Depicting the problems that arise in many Latter-day Saint homes in the mission field, it carries a beautiful lesson.

Translated into English by Sister Emily T. Merrill, adviser of women's auxiliaries in the European mission, the story appears in the *Millennial Star* in two instalments. It will be concluded in next week's issue.

Hans Schirmer, impatient and puzzled, pushed away the books and papers that are on the table in front of him. He looked at his mother for help.

Robert Schirmer's family spent the long winter evenings in their comfortable home. The father was not yet at home. He had been obliged to go directly from work to the home of the branch president, where the branch presidency—Robert Schirmer was the first counsellor—had an important meeting.

The mother was busily engaged with her sewing, and sat in the cosy, warm room with the children. Alfred, the eldest, 23 years old, had recently been made one of the leaders in the branch M Men group, and was busy with the M Men roll, selecting the names of former members who were not attending now. It is his desire to visit these members and bring them back into the organization. Renate, 19 years old, was trying to forget her disappointment by reading a novel.

From the expression on her face it was evident that she was angry. Hans had teased and annoyed her. She was fond of dancing, but was not permitted to go to the annual carnival of the sports club with her friend, Karl Forster. Hans, 17 years old, a secondary school student, was writing an essay, and as we have seen, got puzzled on the subject of “Freedom and Slavery.” Then there were the 14-year-old Veronika, also busy doing her school work; Walter, 10 years old, and Werner, 7 years old.

Walter: Freedom? That is easy, Hans. Freedom is when one can do what he wants to do.

Veronika: Is that so? That is far from the mark, Walter. That would suit you, would it not? To go into any strange orchard in the autumn and take the best apples, or when mother bakes a cake to wait until she leaves the kitchen and then help yourself to the almonds and raisins! (Walter looked at her with contempt, but did not reply.)

Hans: Alfred, you are the most sensible and smartest of us all. You tell me what freedom is.

Alfred: Do not call me smart, Hans. Yes, when I was your age I thought myself very smart. But today? Today I understand more and more how very stupid and ignorant I am, and how much more I need to learn.

Hans: Yes, yes, but you can at least explain to me what you understand by freedom.

Renate: Oh nonsense—freedom, freedom. There is no such thing as freedom! Look at our father. Almost every evening in the week he is away from home—nothing but meetings, consultations, visit making. He is a real slave to the Church. The branch president needs only to call, and he drops everything and is only concerned with the good of the Church. And then, Alfred, you know yourself how it was with you. You did not want to go to meetings but you had to because Father insisted. And I? I am not permitted to go to an innocent dance because Father does not consider Karl Forster good enough!

Werner: Mr. Forster smokes!

Walter: And he swears. I heard him.

Veronika: Yes, and every time he comes here the house smells of tobacco. It is detestable. Renate really has peculiar tastes.

Alfred: Or she has lost her sense of smell.

Renate: Please, my dear! You too must say something. If I were in your place I would remain quiet when smoking is discussed. Did you not smoke before you were made an officer in the M Men group two years ago? And how long will it be until you will smoke again? Is it not so that at that time the smell of a cigarette was not so unpleasant to your nose? Moreover, I have a strong suspicion that Hans is smoking. Lately there has been a strong odour of peppermint or something similar about him.

Alfred: Well, Hans, if you start smoking cigarettes you will soon know what it means to be *not free*. When I tried to break myself of the habit, I found that I was in the clutches of the worst enemy. I had promised Father that I would free myself from these clutches, but I could not succeed. Again and again I tried to free myself, and again and again I failed in my resolution. Finally I tried all kinds of remedies. I took drugs to set me against smoking; I went to Sabrello, the famous hypnotizer. You will remember that he gave a demonstration here, and he claimed that he could break young people of the smoke habit. But all this was in vain. For eight days I endured it, and then I was finished. I simply could not resist the temptation. I had to smoke. Oh, it was terrible! I did not dare to face Father. Yet I did not want to give up the struggle, for I felt that it would mean destruction. I fasted and prayed, and cried to my Father in Heaven. Finally, with His help, I gained my power again and was able to free myself from bondage. Oh, Hans, and Walter, and Werner. Months after I trembled about myself, fearing that I would become a new victim of this temptation. It is to the help of the Lord and to my duties in the Church that I owe a debt of gratitude for the victory I have gained. And, oh, my brothers. The anxiety that I have had that my bad example might mislead others to start this filthy

habit and that you would be ensnared in the clutches of this slavery. How often have I prayed to our Heavenly Father for you, asking that He might guard you from making the mistakes I made.

Alfred's eyes filled with tears. His voice trembled with emotion. His seriousness affected all. Renate was sorry that she spoke in such an unfriendly way. Veronika, his favourite, went to him and in a gentle manner put her cheek to her brother's and stroked his hair. Walter, too, arose, went to Alfred, took his hand and said, "I shall never smoke, Alfred." Also, the little brother, Werner, said to Alfred in an eager, confident manner, "I won't either."

Hans looked embarrassed and sad. He appeared to be holding back tears; but he said nothing.

Sister Schirmer had turned her rocking chair around, so that her face could not be seen. She was weeping softly, for she too had a battle to fight. She was silent.

AT this moment they heard the father at the door stamping the snow from his shoes. In a few minutes the door opened and he stepped in, greeting his family in a friendly manner. He was six feet tall, strong, yet slender, and straight as a tree. Strength and manliness and honesty appear to radiate from him. Surely Napoleon would have remarked as he said of Goethe at their first meeting: "There is a man." Yes, a man, a real man, respected by all who knew him; loved by his wife and children, who looked up to him.

He put his hat and coat down, and lifted little Werner on his shoulder; the little boy's head almost touched the ceiling of the room.

Father: Well, you are all so excited. What has happened?

Walter: Alfred and Renate quarrelled.

Werner: Yes, and she said you were not free, but that you were a slave to the Church, and that you had to jump when the branch president called.

Father: Well, you seem to have been joking. If I am not free then I would like to know who is free.

Hans: It is all my fault, father. I started it. You see, I must write a composition about freedom and slavery. So I read, for example, about the great revolt in Russia against the Czar, and how they killed him and his family because he was a tyrant whose government was crushing the people. They wanted to be free, but now I read that thousands of people are put in jail. Just this evening I read something. See here, father: The Commission of the Interior has sentenced 2,074 people in Lenigrad to exile in Siberia because of their "membership in the citizenship club."

And then I thought of Luther and members of the Reformed church. They wanted to be free from the Catholic church, and yet they in turn persecuted, for instance, the poor peasants in the Peasant war, or, the Anabaptists, or later the members of our Church even in America, which is praised everywhere as the land of the free. There an attempt was made to exterminate our Church with fire and sword. Nevertheless, all our members surely wanted nothing more than to worship God according to the dictates of their conscience.

Then I read about Mussolini, who, in his last speech to the Fascists, claimed the Italian people to be more free than ever before, even more free than the Swiss people. And yet teachers told us that the Italian people are not allowed to read foreign newspapers, and when one refuses the Italian salute he is put in jail.

THERE is another point, Father. Yesterday in our literary lesson we read a poem written by a talented young author of our day, in which he says he wants to be free. He refuses to place himself at the feet of any god, even if he would have to suffer darkness and insanity for the sweet joy of freedom.

In contradiction to that, the poet Goethe says that law only can give us freedom.

Do you see the contradiction, Father? The one says to be free means to be rid of law; the other says to be free means to be bound to law.

So I wondered what freedom is, and through this question the conversation started.

Father: What did Mother say to it?

Mother: I said nothing, Robert. I am unable to give an explanation.

Hans: It appears to me that I have given you quite a hard nut to crack. Alfred has given us an example as to what slavery is; Father says he is free. There we are, but not any further.

Father: And how did Alfred explain his conception of slavery?

Alfred: I told them, Father, how very difficult it was for me to give up smoking. You know that time when I was to receive my first appointment in the M Men group?

Father: That was slavery indeed. Is it not so, my boy?

Alfred: It was indeed, Father. It took the last inch of will power to become free, and without the help of the Lord I would not have succeeded.

Father: Yes, I believe that, and I presume that your comrades who talked you into smoking pretended to make a man out of you because of the smoking. Is it not so?

Alfred: Yes, Father. At first I did not want to, but they said I was a coward if I did not smoke.

Father: Yes, and to show your freedom you walked right into the worst slavery! I warn you, my son, these same people will again approach you with the same intention, and with the same hypocritical speech, in order to mislead you again. When a young boy has manhood enough to obey the laws of God then he makes inferior beings of the drinkers, the smokers, the wicked, and all their adherents. They cannot bear that, and that is why they try everything in their power to draw him down to their level. It takes real manhood to withstand their scoffing and sneering. If he wants to be true to himself, to his God and to his religion, he will have to walk along stretches of this life alone. However, that does not matter. He will reach a most glorious goal. Whoever can do it shows thereby that he is a real man.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

A ROYAL MOTHER

Doris Owens

IN the year 1819 a girl child was born who became the adored mother of a whole empire. She was Alexandrina Victoria, whose reign over the British Empire was the longest in history and whose life as a mother of a nation and a family inspired a people in peace and love. The reign of this loving mother paralleled the planting of the seeds of Mormonism in Britain.

Mother's Day

FOR more than a score of years Latter-day Saints have been observing Mother's Day on the second Sunday in May. All over the world sons and daughters in the Church will pay tribute to the crown of Motherhood in special services next Sunday.

The white carnation, symbolic of purity, fidelity and beauty, is the badge of the day.

Mother's Day originated May 10th, 1908, when Miss Anna Jarvis of Philadelphia arranged a memorial service for her mother in a little Sunday School in Virginia, and conceived the idea of observing the day every year.

At the early age of twelve the blue-eyed daughter of the Duke of Kent was carefully informed of the possibilities of her becoming the Queen of England, and in her firm, clear voice she indicated her desire to prepare for the responsible honour: "I will be good." Her life as a loving queen and mother was the realization of that vow.

Queen Victoria was called to the throne in 1837, although she was not officially crowned until the following year. Soon after her call to the palace she ordered a general election for the members of Parliament, and this election synchronized with the bringing of the Latter-day Saint message to Britain.

Marvellous pageantry was displayed. Streamers, ribbons, bunting and flags decorated the streets in rich profusion. Banners bearing mottoes were stretched out and thousands of people thronged and paraded through the streets.

Through this scene rolled a coach bearing the first Mormon missionaries after much hardship and great suffering, they arrived in Preston to behold this wonderful display. A large banner gently floating in the breeze caught the eyes of these worthy men of God. On the banner in large gilt letters appeared the motto: "Truth will prevail." The glorious message was in perfect accord with their sacred message, and with a joyous heart Heber C. Kimball, their leader, cried aloud, "Amen. Thanks be to God. Truth *will* prevail."

And with these words as a keynote, the missionaries proclaimed the Gospel message to Britain.

With the following summer came the Royal Coronation. Throughout the ceremony the youthful queen bore herself with surprising dignity. The whole assembly was greatly impressed as she walked and sat with amazing grace, correctly performing the ceremonial duties with easy assurance, although she was only a girl. Finally, robed and crowned, she sat upon the throne,

proudly watching the Royal display before her, and receiving the homage of her people with graceful charm.

But royal dignity was quickly replaced by youthful simplicity. After the ceremony was over, she left Buckingham Palace and ran to her private rooms to give her dog, Dash, his evening bath.

Throughout her sixty-three-year reign Queen Victoria ruled with a strong but loving hand. The force of her compelling personality commanded respect and obedience. Her diary reveals the secrets of a heart overflowing with affection for all. Her husband and children were the joy of her life. "I never knew," she wrote, "that I could ever have the rich abundance of joy that my husband and children have brought me."

Her soul, filled with a love of beauty and romance, rejoiced in her yearly holiday trip, when she could act, as she said, "as if one were very nearly any one else." In the busiest moments of her life Queen Victoria could always find time for a game with her children.

She carried the same love to her people. She implored ministers and diplomats continually in the cause of peace. The horrors of war filled her with overwhelming pity for her "poor, dear soldiers." Several pages of her diary were filled with unconcealed love for these men whom she called "my noble fellows."

She was the mother of the nation, and she looked upon them as her own sons. "I feel," she related, "as if these were my own children; my heart beats for them as for my nearest and dearest."

Heber C. Kimball was impressed with Queen Victoria as he watched her procession for the opening of Parliament in 1841. "She made a low bow to us, and we returned the compliment. She looked pleasant; small of stature; with blue eyes; an innocent-looking woman," he described her, after asking God's blessings upon her.

The following year Lorenzo Snow, then a missionary in England, presented Her Majesty with a Book of Mormon donated by President Brigham Young.

AFTER the death of her husband, Prince Albert, the Queen, garbed in heavy folds of black velvet and heavy pearls, could still be found labouring almost ceaselessly for those whom she loved.

Music, painting, beauty and art of any description filled the heart of Queen Victoria with rapturous delight. Miss Nannie Tout, the "Mormon Nightingale," was privileged to sing before her. The beauty of Miss Tout's golden voice rendering "Oh, My Father" captured the heart of this loving Queen, and the Latter-day Saint girl was invited to afternoon tea with Her Majesty. True to her Church teaching, the proffered cup of tea was politely refused, and this little incident and the beauty of Miss Tout's glorious voice opened a discussion on Mormonism.

The Queen so loved Nannie Tout's marvellous singing that she presented her with a beautiful gown, which she wore with becoming pride.

If ever Queen Victoria realized how much she was loved it was at the glorious Jubilee of 1897. Then a little old lady with white hair and faded but keen, blue eyes, she was escorted in

(Continued on page 301)

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR

THURSDAY, MAY 9, 1935

EDITORIAL

CHANGE IN ASSOCIATE EDITOR

READERS of the *Millennial Star* may have observed that we have a new associate editor—Wendell J. Ashton. Elder Richard S. Bennett, who has so capably served the *Star* as associate editor for nearly two years, has been released to return to his home in Salt Lake City.

We hope all readers have enjoyed the work of Elder Bennett. He has been most devoted to his job and within the field of *Star* activity he has tried hard to find and publish material that would be enjoyable and beneficial. We hope you will agree with the editor in saying that Elder Bennett has done his work ably and satisfactorily. His services of course have been given entirely gratis. We thank him most heartily and release him with our best wishes for his future success.

Elder Ashton has been called in from the Liverpool District, where he laboured for more than eight months. He is an experienced newspaper writer. Several of his articles have appeared in the *Star*. We bespeak for him a continuance of the hearty support you have given Elder Bennett.—JOSEPH F. MERRILL.

ABOUT YOUR MOTHER

HONOUR your mother! To her you owe your very life. She rejoiced to suffer, even to face death, that you might know this world of beauty and joyous experience in accordance with God's great plan. She blessed you with the greatest gift within the power of her giving—the heritage of a sound body and a clean mind in which might be tabernacled that priceless gift of God, your eternal spirit.

And into your unfolding mind she poured knowledge of the truths by which happiness and everlasting satisfaction might be won in this new world she gave you. She helped you to find God, and taught you to pray to Him in humility and sincerity. She taught you faith, love, devotion, goodness and right desires.

When your developing will might have led you into unhappiness, she lovingly stayed your wanderings, and brought you back to safety. Without compulsion or overbearance she trained you to know that which would enrich and enhance your heritage from that which would desecrate and destroy it. She made sure that your early deeds and thoughts induced habits which were uplifting and good. She kept your growth within the limits in which abundant life is knowledgeable.

She guided you in your years of youth, when your reason and

will began to make themselves a force in your life, and you began to take on individuality. You took her into your confidence, and when the problems and seeming inconsistencies of life confounded you, she pointed out to you the way of wisdom that would lead to earthly power and inward peace. By wise counsel she directed you to wise conclusions. She led you to discover yourself.

Others may have misunderstood, but she never failed you. She fathomed your innermost desires, caught the promise of your hopes, and knew the blight of your fears. You took your troubles to her, assured that she would not misconstrue their import. You found in her a confidant, whose sympathy, while never a compromise with wrong, gave you new courage and determination to do right.

As you suffered, so did she suffer, with a love and concern that was as constant as the everlasting hills. Others might have forsaken and forgotten you, failure overwhelmed you, dishonour covered you. But come what did, you knew that you could always depend on her. Through everything her changeless love remained a shining light, and for your indiscretions and offenses her heart was always open in forgiveness. In her love for you the illimitable love of God found its truest earthly counterpart.

You build today on the memories and experiences of yesterday. And of these, your mother is your holiest memory, your worthiest ideal. Unselfishness characterized her love; her sacrifices for you were uncalculating; her motives always deep-rooted in perfect purity. In no other way can you more eloquently honour her memory and gain lasting satisfaction than by emulation of these qualities as your standard of conduct.

It is a priceless privilege for you to be with your mother. If she is living, she treasures your companionship, and awaits, with tender expectancy, your visits, or your return to her side. If a new and greater life has claimed her, she awaits your coming there, to bless you with the same unchanging love. There is but one way of assuring that you will be privileged to enjoy her association throughout the eternities. This is to live as she has lived, in fulfilling her exalted calling as your mother.

Latter-day Saints all over the world will honour Mother with special services on Sunday. Her place in life is more significant to Latter-day Saints. She not only is a mother in this earth-life, but continues to guide, to comfort and to teach in motherhood throughout all eternity.

Thus can we say: Honour your mother. Her life is a testimony to the great love she bears you.—RICHARD S. BENNETT.

CORRECTION—We regret the error into which we fell in the issue of the *Millennial Star* of May 2nd in speaking of May 6th as the 25th anniversary of the Coronation of King George V. The date is the 25th anniversary of the accession of His Majesty to the throne. He was crowned at Westminster Abbey on June 22nd, 1911.

MOTHER IN SCRIPTURE

A MOTHER is a mother still,
The holiest thing alive.

—Coleridge.

THE world would be a cold and homeless place without her, and the golden records of the prophets would lose their glitter and warmth without her.

It was she in whom God trusted the all-important task of nurturing His children on earth. It was she whose arms cradled the Christ-child. It was she on whose knee the leaders of Israel learned their first lessons on the law of the Lord, and it was she who taught the prophets to pray. Great has been her task and great has been her influence in the plan of the Lord. The scriptures are replete with stories of her devotion and sacrifice and love. She is Mother.

Eve was the first mother. She must have been a wonderful mother, or she would not have been chosen the "first lady" of humanity. She recognized the great gift of motherhood. The Pearl of Great Price records her expression of gratitude: "Were it not for our transgression we would have never had seed." Thus Eve realized the great blessing and joy and privilege of wearing the crown of motherhood.

Eve must have been a faithful helpmate to Adam, for we are told that after they were cast out of the Garden, he worked by the "sweat of his brow" and "Eve, also, his wife, did labour with him."

Thus goes to Eve the honour of being the only woman whom all humanity can call "mother," for she is the ancestress of all men.

Then there was the beautiful Sarah, wife of Abraham and mother of the covenant race. There is no story of a wife's greater devotion to her husband than that of Sarah. Twice Abraham left a home of luxury, and Sarah followed. Nowhere in the scriptures is there mention of her complaining, but the chroniclers record much of her loyalty and sacrifice. Her husband possessed wealth and she had handmaids, but that did not keep Sarah from preparing meals and delicacies as only a mother can. On one occasion we are told: "And Abraham hastened into the tent of Sarah, and said, Make ready quickly three measures of fine meal, knead it, and make cakes upon the hearth."

To Sarah the Lord gave one of the choicest blessings of motherhood: "And I will bless her, and give thee a son also of her; yea, I will bless her, and she shall be a *mother* of nations; kings of people shall be of her," He told Abraham. The fulfillment of his promise began with the birth of Isaac, her only child, in her old age. Sarah became the mother of nations.

Another blessed mother in Israel was the considerate Rebekah, a fair daughter of Haran whose kindness to Abraham's servant at the well led to her marriage to Isaac. Her affable personality soon won Isaac, as we read: "And Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent, and took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her; and Isaac was comforted after his mother's death."

Rebekah became the mother of the only twins mentioned in the Bible, Esau and Jacob. The Lord told Rebekah that the "elder shall serve the younger," and well-known is the story of her steadfast love for Jacob, who became Israel, and of her aid to him in receiving his father's blessing. Her reply to her puzzled son when he questioned her plan showed her motherly sacrifice to the "younger": "Upon me be thy curse: only obey my voice."

The wife of this same Jacob became a great mother. She was the mother of Joseph, the favoured son of Israel. Her name was Rachel, whom Jacob loved so much he laboured fourteen years for her. Joseph who was sold into Egypt was the answer to her prayers for motherhood.

And so are there many mothers of the Old Testament whose integrity, love and steadfastness thrill the reader of Israel's history. There was Asenath, mother of Ephraim and Manasseh, whose seed became the birthright tribes. It was the motherly gesture of an unnamed "daughter of Levi" that preserved the life of the lawgiver of Israel and opened the way for his entrance into the king's court. He was Moses, who as a babe was hidden in an ark of bullrushes by his loving mother to escape the fury of Pharaoh. Ruth and Naomi, whose story of devotion to each other has long been a favourite theme for teachers, were both mothers. Ruth's son, Obed, became the grandfather of King David.

Hannah it was who reared her covenanted son, Sammel, to be a prophet. This devoted mother knew the power of prayer and taught it to the infant Sammel, who was called of God when only a boy.

The Old Testament without mother would be like a garden without blossoms.

THE most beautiful story of a mother and babe in all literature is found in the New Testament. The Eternal Father did not choose a king nor a wise man or even a prophet to care for His Only Begotten Son. He chose a mother.

What greater promise could come to any one than Gabriel's annunciation to the virgin woman of Nazareth? "Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be great and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David."

Mary was a true mother to her Son until the last, as John records, "Now there stood by the cross of Jesus his mother." What a picture that sentence paints!

Christ's last reference to a mortal before His death on Calvary was to His mother. To Mary He said, "Woman, behold thy son!" and to John, "Behold thy mother!"

Mary's cousin, Elizabeth, was another choice mother of the New Testament. Like her illustrious progenitors, Sarah and Rachel, she was childless some time before the birth of her prophet-son, the forerunner of Christ. John the Baptist was the promised son of the faithful Elizabeth. She must have been a loving character, for Mary hastened to confide in her after the heavenly visitation of Gabriel.

A story of the scriptural mother would not be complete without mention of Sariah, first mother of the Book of Mormon. She was the mother of two great revelators, Nephi and Jacob, and of the American remnant of the House of Israel. A woman of wealth in Jerusalem, she forsook all to accompany her husband, Lehi, on one of the longest family treks of all time. Only when she feared her sons had been destroyed by Laban did she complain, but on their return to safety, she uttered words which expressed her greatness as a mother: "Now I know of a surety that the Lord hath commanded my husband to flee into the wilderness; yea, and I also know of a surety that the Lord hath protected my sons, and delivered them out of the hand of Laban, and given them power whereby they could accomplish the thing which the Lord commanded them."

Thus has Mother played her untiring, steadfast role in the story of the scriptures. Her modest, humble life has beautified them with love and filled them with devotion. If the prophet is the receiver of the law, Mother is the interpreter.—WENDELL J. ASHTON.

KIDDERMINSTER ACCOMMODATIONS

IN cooperation with the committee on housing for the M.I.A. conference at Kidderminster, the British mission M. I. A. officers announce arrangements for accommodating saints and friends during the three-day meeting, June 8th, 9th and 10th. Two different bookings have been arranged, and it remains to the option of each person as to which he or she desires.

Twelve Shillings and Ninepence Bookings

This includes bed Saturday and Sunday nights, June 8th and 9th, and breakfast Sunday and Monday mornings, June 9th and 10th; *teas* on Saturday, Sunday and Monday; *luncheons* on Sunday and Monday, and admission to the gala dance on Saturday evening, June 8th.

(Luncheons and teas will be served at 12:15 p.m. and 5 p.m. directly across the street from the town hall where general conference sessions will convene.)

Nine Shilling Bookings

This includes bed Saturday and Sunday nights, June 8th and 9th; breakfasts Sunday and Monday mornings, June 9th and 10th, and admission to the gala dance on Saturday evening, June 8th.

Saints and friends coming to conference should signify their intention at once in order that proper reservations might be made at Kidderminster. This may be done by paying a deposit of three shillings on either the 9s. or 12s. 9d. arrangement (the balance being paid later or upon arrival at the June conference), or by paying the full amount.

Bookings at these rates will close May 20th. No reservations will be open after that date.

Those desiring accommodations should book at once by letter, enclosing postal orders. Address all communications to Elder M. Neff Smart, Executive Secretary of the June Conference General Committee, 5 Gordon Square, W. C. 1, London.

BRITISH Y.M.M.I.A., AND Y.W.M.I.A. BOARDS

A ROYAL MOTHER

(Concluded from page 295)

regal splendour along the streets to St. Paul's cathedral. The hearty roars of the adoring crowds filled her ears.

Multitudes of faithful subjects pressed forward, eager to catch a glimpse of their Queen.

With tear-filled eyes, she murmured over and over again, "How kind they are to me; how kind they are to me."

About four years later this wonderful mother-queen joined her beloved husband and left a whole Empire mourning. Her childish vow, "I will be good," was completed. She had been good to both posterity and subjects; lovingly teaching and guiding with the genuine affection of a true mother. Just as she started her magnificent reign, so she finished. Always loyal and true, with the same eager vitality, pride, simplicity and regal dignity, she blessed all with a love that was characteristic of her.

A great name has been left on the roll of British sovereigns. Treasured in the memory of her subjects and handed down through generations Queen Victoria is still remembered and revered by all as a motherly queen.

CHURCH WIDE NEWS

Elder George Albert Smith of the Council of Twelve, who is a member of the executive board of the National council, Boy Scouts of America, has been appointed chairman of the committee on programme and resolutions for the Twenty-fifth annual meeting of the council in Chicago, May 16th and 17th. Scouters from all over America will gather for the convention. President Franklin D. Roosevelt is honorary president of the National council.

Sister Heen Ann Waspe, who recently served a mission in Great Britain and France, has been appointed to the general board of the Young Women's Mutual Improvement association. While in Britain Sister Waspe visited several of the districts as president of the Y. W. M. I. A. of the British and European missions.

A new stake of the Church in the Hawaiian islands will be organized in the near future, it has been announced by President Heber J. Grant. President Heber J. Grant and President J. Reuben Clark, Jr., will go to the Islands to effect the organization. The large

membership of the Church on the Islands has been under the administration of mission presidents for some time, but with the increasing numbers it is felt by the authorities that a full stake organization can be perfected there. President Grant dedicated the temple at Laie, Hawaii, November 27th, 1919.

Baptisms in all seven temples of the Church on April 27th were performed on the line of Oliver Cowdery, the first man to be baptized into the Church in this dispensation, in special exercises under the direction of the Presiding Bishop's office. Three thousand baptisms for the dead were performed, the work being done by members of the Aaronic Priesthood and girls of corresponding ages.

English poet and critic of note, Dr. Edward Davison, former varsity debater at Cambridge and editor of the *Cambridge Review*, will join the faculty of the Brigham Young university, Church school in Provo, Utah, for the summer session beginning June 10th. Among the works of poetry he has written is "The Ninth Witch." He will give a series of lectures on poetry.

OF CURRENT INTEREST

Mother—Although he is one of the busiest men in the world, Sir John Simon, Britain's Foreign Secretary, always finds time to pay a frequent visit to his 88-year-old mother in Pembrokeshire. Recently he left London early in the morning, spent a few precious hours with her, and then drove back all through the night.

Birds—Feathered pilgrims from many countries are winging their way to British shores now that spring is in the air. The greenish-brown chiffchaff and the willow warbler are arriving from their winter haunts in South Africa. Cuckoos are coming from Palestine, the Mediterranean and North

Africa, and thrushes and starlings from Norway and farther north. The greatest flight of all is that of the swallows that are due now.

Gold—The famous life-size statue of the Black Prince over his tomb in Canterbury Cathedral was recently cleaned. Centuries of grime and protective enamel were removed from the statue which has been black for hundreds of years. After the delicate job had been completed, a glittering efficacy of gold on a foundation of bronze surprisingly remained. Erected 550 years ago, the tomb was described by Professor E. W. Tristram, who supervised the renovating, as the most magnificent in England.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT CONFERENCE

FERVENT testimonies by saints, convincing talks and instructions by authorities and beautiful music combined to make the annual spring conference of the Sheffield district in the Sheffield branch hall, Sheffield, an inspiring gathering on Sunday, April 28th.

President Joseph F. Merrill of the European missions emphasized the power of the Priesthood in his talk during the evening session. He said that the Church was on the earth to stay, and that people must live its principles if they are to gain genuine joy and happiness.

The vitality of Mormonism as a cure for troubles in the world was stressed by President Joseph J. Cannon of the British mission. He showed that nearly all the changes in the mode of living in the past 30 years were brought about by people thinking about the welfare of others.

The morning session included testimony bearing by Sisters Edna Axe and Winifred Ludlam and Brothers Fred K. Birkhead and James R. Bargh, and four short talks by the district missionaries,

Elders Herbert T. Edgar, George E. Astle, Gordon D. Priestly and Frank E. Ellis. Elder G. Homer Durham, president of the British mission Y.M.M.I.A., described the plans for the coming mission-wide conference at Kidderminster.

In the afternoon the blessings and benefits of the Sunday School were illustrated in a programme presented by Elder Conway A. Ashton, Mission superintendent; Sister Edith Johnson, district supervisor, and Sisters Rita F. Hardy, Elsie Quinney and Beatrice Elks and Brother George R. Birkhead. The work of the Relief Society was then portrayed in speech, song and pageant in a programme presented under the direction of Sister Ramona W. Cannon, Mission Relief Society president; Sister Dorothy Bailey, district supervisor, and Sisters Doris Axe, Jane Birkhead, Maude A. Bailey and Nellie Bailey.

Musical numbers during the conference were provided by Sister Ray Thompson and the district choir.

District President George H. Bailey conducted the services.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE NOTICE—The Leeds district conference will be held in Westgate hall, Westgate, Bradford, on Sunday, May 12th. Presidents Joseph F. Merrill and Joseph J. Cannon will be the principal speakers. A lantern lecture on Joseph Smith will be given in the same hall the preceding day.

FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Doings in the Districts—Birmingham—The Kidderminster M. I. A. dramatic association held a gala carnival ball in the St. Mary's Parish hall on Saturday, April 6th, with more than 125 saints and friends in attendance. The hall was decorated with festoons of streamers, and carnival hats and favors were given all the guests. Mr. E. L. Graham and Miss L. Smith won the prize waltz. The committee in charge included Sisters Gertrude Allen and Gladys Elmes, Brothers Lorenzo Dunn and William Gittins and Elder Eargle C. Harmsen.

The Kidderminster M Men showed their skill in softball by holding the district travelling elders to a one-run margin, losing a thrilling game, 11-10 on Saturday, April 6th. The elders scored the winning run in the last innings. Through the columns of the *Millennial Star*, the Kidderminster group issue a challenge to any M Men club in the British Mission.

Liverpool—Each branch in the Liverpool district held a musical festival during the last week of March under the auspices of the district M. I. A., Brother Horace Heyes and Elder William F. Homer being in charge. At Wigan branch, Brother Frank Brindle gave an address on "Music and the Lives of Mozart and Schubert," while Brother J. C. Rickard and Mr. Joseph Snape rendered instrumental numbers.

Hull—At the ceremonies in the Hull branch chapel Sunday, March 31st, Anne Louisa Sutton, Madge Lillian Sutton, Jeffrey Arthur Hall, and Robert Beaumont Hammond of the Grimsby branch, and Nellie Stone Stainton and Elsie Emily Spain of the Hull branch were

baptized. The ordinances were performed by travelling Elders James J. Kirby and Clarence B. Cannon, and Elder Gardham Stainton. Talks were given by Supervising Elder Kenneth F. Cropper and Brother Walter Yull of the district presidency.

The annual spring conference of the Hull branch was held Sunday, March 31st, with "Tithing" as the theme. Audrey Twidale, Rosaline Jean and Reginald Yull spoke during the Sunday School services

in the morning, and Travelling Elders Clarence B. Cannon and James J. Kirby spoke in the evening.

Manchester—A cottage meeting was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. Warburton of Bury, Thursday, March 28th, with Elder Leland W. Thomas speaking on "The Way of Salvation." A discussion on Gospel principles followed his remarks.

A district Relief Society sewing contest was held following the union meeting in Manchester branch chapel Saturday, March 30th, with Manchester and Rochdale branches winning first and second places,

Organ Throbs

ALL of the atmosphere that accompanies a general conference of the Church in the large tabernacle in Salt Lake City will prevail when British saints gather for their first annual M. I. A. youth conference in Kidderminster at Whitsuntide.

Throbbing strains from the pipe organ of the Kidderminster Town hall will ring out just as the music from the world-famous tabernacle organ. Both the Kidderminster branch chapel and the Town hall will vibrate with Latter-day Saint hymns and M. I. A. rally songs during the three-day period, June 8th, 9th and 10th. There will be "Carry On," contest song for the ladies' chorus; "The Boy Scout Day," the scouters' favourite; "True to the Faith," "Come, Come, Ye Saints," and others, rendered by the flower of Great Britain.

respectively. Following the contest a programme, including farcical numbers and individual recitations and songs, was presented by the Rochdale branch.

Saints and friends enjoyed a spiritual feast in a cottage meeting at the home of Brother H. Q. Jones of Leigh on Tuesday evening, March 26th. Elder Melvin M. Richards conducted the programme, and Elder Elbert H. Startup gave a talk

on "The Dispersion and Gathering of Israel."

Personal—Miss Hettie Hilda Harper, daughter of Charles Harper, was married to Edgar Walker Francis Hancock, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Hancocks, in the Tipton Parish church Saturday, January 26th. Both are members of the Tipton branch.

MOTHER

S EARCH for a sound the world around,
You will not find another
So sweet and rare that can compare
In loveliness to Mother.

Mother! The sound cheers all around,
For love hath built her shrine;
Until the name reflects her fame
'Tis music, sweet, divine.

O Mother sweet, so kind and neat,
What joy your presence brings;
To cottage small, or stately hall,
Or palaces of kings.

Your worth and love are high above
Our mortal means to measure;
Not all the earth could give the worth
Of so wonderful a treasure.

J. C. BETTRIDGE, Nottingham District

DEATH

WARD—Sister Selina Ward, 77, passed away at her home in Leicester on April 11th, following a long period of illness. For 27 years she was a faithful member of the Leicester branch. Funeral services,

under the direction of Supervising Elder Alma H. Boyce, were held at Sister Ward's home on April 15th. Elder L. Dean Hickman offered the dedicatory prayer at the graveside.

CONTENTS

Freedom or Slavery	290	tions	300
A Royal Mother	294	Church Wide News	301
Editorials: A Change in Associate Editor:	296	Of Current Interest	302
About Your Mother... ..	260	Sheffield District Conference	302
Mother in Scripture	298	From the Mission Field... ..	303
Kidderminster Accommoda-		Poetry:	
		Mother	304

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